



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer

At its meeting held January 17, 2006, the Board took the following action:

11

The following item was called up for consideration:

The Chief Administrative Officer's recommendation to approve updated policies and proposals for the second year of the 2005-06 State Legislative Session which seek to minimize the adverse impact of State actions on the County, achieve greater flexibility over the use of State funds, secure State assistance whenever possible, especially from non-General Fund sources, and promote the growth of the State and local economy; and instruct the Chief Administrative Officer, affected departments, the Legislative Strategist, and the County's Legislative Advocates in Sacramento to work with the County's Legislative Delegation, other counties and local governments, and interest groups to pursue these policies and proposals.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

"Although there are several sections that address substance abuse treatment services, our legislative policies do not specifically target parents of children in the child welfare system. Substance abuse programs for parents in the child welfare system, and funding specifically for such programs, are critical if we are to meet the County's obligation to make reasonable efforts to safely maintain children with their parents, and to facilitate reunification as quickly as possible and within the legally required timeframes.

"The Board of Supervisors has received recommendations from County departments regarding the need for specialized courts to better serve the homeless population, including mental health courts, drug courts and courts to deal with persons with co-occurring disorders. One important issue is how to fund the operations of these courts, such as the costs of judges, clerks, and court reporters.

(Continued on Page 2)

"I therefore recommend that the Board of Supervisors amend the State legislative policies to include the following:

In Section 1.2 – Child Welfare Services – Foster Care, Item 12, amend to state: Support proposals that provide and fund substance abuse treatment services for children and parents in the Child Welfare Services system; and

In Section 6.3 – Trial Court Funding, add Item 5 as follows:  
"Support measures and funding for creation and expansion of mental health courts, drug courts and/or courts addressing the needs of persons with co-occurring disorders."

After discussion, the Board agreed to direct the Chief Administrative Officer to request the District Attorney to review and report back on Supervisor Yaroslavsky's amendment to Attachment 1, Section 6.3 – Trial Court Funding. Further, the Board agreed to continue Supervisor Yaroslavsky's amendment to Section 6 for one week to January 24, 2006, in order to receive the report from the District Attorney.

Further, Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

"The Governor has proposed a massive construction program to rebuild many of our State's crumbling public works and other infrastructure assets. The program envisions \$107 billion in improvements to California's transportation system, including much needed repairs and expansion of highways and inter-city train lines as well as projects to speed the movement of cargo at our ports and beyond. However, the Governor's program does not provide any funds at all for the expansion of public mass transit within our cities.

"This oversight must be corrected before the State finalizes its building plans and asks the voters to approve a financing package. As Los Angeles County grows ever more populated and denser, we are going to need substantial investment in public transportation if we are to remain a livable, commercially viable region. We must design, fund and build a raft of projects, from the Exposition Light Rail Line between Downtown and Santa Monica; to a Green Line spur into LAX; to extension of the Red Line Subway westward; to bus way and light-rail systems Countywide. Los Angeles County cannot possibly build these critical public transportation projects without substantial State and Federal assistance.

(Continued on Page 3)

"I therefore recommend that the 2005-06 State Legislative Agenda be amended to include support for a Statewide infrastructure repair and expansion program that includes substantial funding for urban mass transit priorities in Los Angeles County and throughout California."

In addition, Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a motion to add a new section as follows:

Attachment I, Section 13.2, Item 12, Waste Management: Support Legislation that identifies financial incentives (such as no-, or low-interest loans, tax credits, etc.) to assist and encourage the hundreds of thousands of California homeowners (rural, coastal and urban) who operate Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS), to test and structurally upgrade, as determined, their OWTS as required for compliance with Assembly Bill 885.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, and carried by the Board, the Chief Administrative Officer's attached recommendations updating the policies and proposals for the second year of the 2005-06 State Legislative Session were adopted with the following changes:

1. A "No" vote was recorded for Supervisor Molina on the following:
  - Attachment I, Section 6.8 – Probation, Item 1: Support funding for the Developing Increased Safety through Arms Recovery (DISARM) Program;
2. A "No" vote was recorded for Supervisor Knabe on the following:
  - Attachment I, Number 2 – Environment, Natural Resources and Recreation, Section 2.3, Environmental Protection and Open Space, Item 7: Support legislation to collect a fee of up to \$6 upon the annual registration or renewal of motor vehicle registrations to fund projects and grants that prevent, reduce, remediate, or mitigate the adverse environmental effects of motor vehicles and their associated facilities and other infrastructure improvement projects;
  - Attachment I, Number 9 – Revenue and Taxation, Item 2: Support legislation to provide the County with greater flexibility to increase the local sales tax in light of the 1.5 percent local sales tax cap;

(Continued on Page 4)

11 (Continued)

- Attachment I, Number 9 – Revenue and Taxation, Item 3: Support proposals to provide for a fee on alcohol consumption to be used to fund trauma and emergency care;
- Attachment I, Number 10 – Social Services, Section 10.11 Service Delivery, Item 1. Oppose efforts to privatize and/or centralize eligibility for Medi-Cal, CalWORKs, and/or Food Stamps at the State level;
- Attachment I, Number 11 – State-County Relationship, Item 9: Support a constitutional amendment to provide that the State budget and related bills can be approved by a majority vote;
- Attachment I, Number 12 – Transportation, Item 10: Support legislation to reduce the vote requirement of enacting a county-wide sales or gas tax transportation measure; and
- Attachment II, County-Sponsored Program-Specific Proposals, Number 2 - Local Alcohol Tax Authority: Under current law, local government does not have the authority to levy an alcohol tax. The weakened condition of the California economy has increased the demand for local governmental services beyond what current revenues can finance. This places essential services such as emergency and trauma care, where the need for these services is often linked to alcohol consumption, at risk. On February 22, 2005, SB 656 (Romero) was introduced on behalf of the County, and the measure is pending action by the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee. **Therefore, the County will continue to sponsor SB 656 or other legislation that would authorize counties to impose a local tax of no more than 5% on the sale of alcoholic beverages in order to continue to provide essential public services, including emergency and trauma care;**

3. A “No” vote was recorded for Supervisor Antonovich on the following:

- Attachment I, Number 1 – Children and Families, Section 1.3 Child Care and Child Development, Item 5: Support efforts to expand and improve early care and education services by including such services in all city and county planning processes for land use and zoning, transportation, housing, and economic, workforce, and community development;

(Continued on Page 5)

11 (Continued)

- Attachment I, Number 2 – Environment, Natural Resources and Recreation, Section 2.3, Environmental Protection and Open Space, Item 7: Support legislation to collect a fee of up to \$6 upon the annual registration or renewal of motor vehicle registrations to fund projects and grants that prevent, reduce, remediate, or mitigate the adverse environmental effects of motor vehicles and their associated facilities and other infrastructure improvement projects;
- Attachment I, Number 4 – Health, Section 4.3, Medi-Cal and Healthy Families, Item 7: Support continued State funding for prenatal services to undocumented women;
- Attachment I, Number 7 – Maintenance of Effort/Mandate Relief, Item 6: Oppose new unfunded mandates unless they promote a higher priority;
- Attachment I, Number 9 – Revenue and Taxation, Item 2: Support legislation to provide the County with greater flexibility to increase the local sales tax in light of the 1.5 percent local sales tax cap;
- Attachment I, Number 9 – Revenue and Taxation, Item 3: Support proposals to provide for a fee on alcohol consumption to be used to fund trauma and emergency care;
- Attachment I, Number 10 – Social Services, Section 10.11 Service Delivery, Item 1: Oppose efforts to privatize and/or centralize eligibility for Medi-Cal, CalWORKs, and/or Food Stamps at the State level;
- Attachment I, Number 11 – State-County Relationship, Item 9: Support a constitutional amendment to provide that the State budget and related bills can be approved by a majority vote;
- Attachment I, Number 12 – Transportation, Item 10: Support legislation to reduce the vote requirement for enacting a county-wide sales or gas tax transportation measure; and

(Continued on Page 6)

11 (Continued)

- Attachment II, County-Sponsored Program-Specific Proposals, Number 2 - Local Alcohol Tax Authority: Under current law, local government does not have the authority to levy an alcohol tax. The weakened condition of the California economy has increased the demand for local governmental services beyond what current revenues can finance. This places essential services such as emergency and trauma care, where the need for these services is often linked to alcohol consumption, at risk. On February 22, 2005, SB 656 (Romero) was introduced on behalf of the County, and the measure is pending action by the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee. **Therefore, the County will continue to sponsor SB 656 or other legislation that would authorize counties to impose a local tax of no more than 5% on the sale of alcoholic beverages in order to continue to provide essential public services, including emergency and trauma care;**
4. Amended the State Legislative Agenda for the second year of the 2005-06 session to:
- Include support for a Statewide infrastructure repair and expansion program that includes substantial funding for urban mass transit priorities in Los Angeles County and throughout California;
  - Add to Attachment I, Section 13.2. Waste Management, Item 12: Support Legislation that identifies financial incentives (such as no-, or low-interest loans, tax credits, etc.) to assist and encourage the hundreds of thousands of California homeowners (rural, coastal and urban) who operate Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS), to test and structurally upgrade, as determined, their OWTS as required for compliance with Assembly Bill 885; and
  - Revise Attachment I, Section 1.2 – Child Welfare Services – Foster Care, Item 12 to: Support proposals that provide and fund substance abuse treatment services for children and parents in the Child Welfare Services system; and

(Continued on Page 7)

11 (Continued)

5. Continued to the meeting of January 24, 2006, consideration of Supervisor Yaroslavsky's proposed amendment to the State Legislative Agenda, Attachment I, Section 6.3 – Trial Court Funding, Item 5 to: "Support measures and funding for creation and expansion of mental health courts, drug courts and/or courts addressing the needs of persons with co-occurring disorders;" and directed the Chief Administrative Officer to request the District Attorney to review Supervisor Yaroslavsky's proposed amendment and report back on his position.

06011006\_11

Attachment

Copies distributed:  
Each Supervisor  
District Attorney  
County Counsel